

The butterfly was found by the writer between Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage (on 4th January, 1950) on rough open ground adjoining the well developed and comparatively tall type of karroid vegetation which is so characteristic of that area\*.

Mr. McMaster states in a letter that the butterfly seems to be fairly plentiful where it occurs, appearing here and there in the Karroo scrub, with a tendency to keep to flat open country. It settles on the ground, making short circular flights when disturbed, and can often be found on flowers.

Sincere thanks are due to Mr. G. E. Tite for his kindness in checking the manuscript before its publication; while Dr. L. Vári has been good enough to make available for study the specimens from the Transvaal Museum Collection.

\*A female specimen which was captured to the west of Calvinia (Western Cape Province) on 15th December 1951, has also been found to answer to this species.

"Blencathra," Cambridge Avenue, St. Michael's Estate, Cape Town.

## New Forest Mercury Vapour Light Records for 1967

By L. W. SIGGS

The numbers of specimens recorded in the Minstead M.V. trap were as follows:—

	Nights	Total	Average
March	30	1826	61
April	30	2084	69
May	30	915	30
June	28	3508	125
July	25	5650	226
August	31	5432	175
September	30	2710	90
October	31	1396	45
November	30	704	23
Total	265	24,225	91

This is the lowest daily average over the year since records began in 1962.

The following additions to the Minstead list are recorded:—

*Heterogenea asella* Schiff.  
*Shrankia taenialis* Hübn.  
*Eupithecia indigata* Hübn.  
*Operophtera jagata* Scharf.

As a result of examination of genitalia, I can add—

*Hydraecia paludis* Tutt taken in 1963 and 1965  
*Oporinia christyi* Prout taken in 1959.

The number of species of macrolepidoptera recorded in 1967 was 357, a more than average figure.

Species which put in an appearance this year but are not regular visitors were *Tethea duplaris* L., *Lasiocampus quercus* L., *Hepialus fusconebulosa* Deg., *Graphiphora augur* Fab., *Amathes agathina* Dup. (it

seems to have been a good year for this generally), *Anaplectoides prasana* Schiff., *Orthosia advena* Schiff., *Leucania obsoleta* Hübn., *Leucania vitellina* Hübn., *Nonagria sparganii* Esp., *Caradrina ambigua* Schiff., *Nycteola revayana* Scop., *Cosymbia pendularia* Clerck, *Plemyria rubiginata* Schiff., *Eupithecia succenturiata* L., *Apeira syringaria* L., *Ectropis consonaria* Hübn.

MIGRANTS. The number of species occurring was up to standard, but the number of specimens in most species was well down. The details are:—*Lithosia quadra* L. (9, including, for the first time in the trap, 2 females); *Agrotis ipsilon* Hufn. (322), *Peridroma porphyrea* Schiff. (67), *Leucania vitellina* Hübn. (2), *Laphygma exigua* Hübn. (1), *Plusia gamma* L. (291), *Rhodometra sacraria* L. (2), *Nycterosea obstipata* Fab. (10), *Diasemia ramburialis* Dup. (1), *Palpita unionalis* Hübn. (1), *Nomophila noctuella* Schiff. (86), *Udea ferrugalis* Hübn. (19), *Plutella maculipennis* Curt. (2).

A warm spell early in the year resulted in the unusually early appearance of several species, among which were—*Biston strataria* Hufn., 30.i.; *Nomophila noctuella* L., 30.i.; *Xylocampa areola* Esp., 1.ii., *Apocheima hispidaria* Fab., 3.ii.; *Orthosia gothica* L., 18.ii.; *Agrotis ipsilon* Hufn., 31.iii.; *Xanthorhoë fluctuata* L., 16.iv.; *Eupithecia nanata* Hübn., 17.iv.; *Spilosoma lubricipeda* L., 19.iv.; *Apatele rumicis* L., 22.iv.; *Thera firmata* Hübn., 22.iv. (this is the first time I have recorded this early brood, although the later one is quite common).

Some late records are also of interest—*Semiothisa alternaria* Hübn., 10.ix.; *Thyatira batis* L., 11.ix.; *Agrotis exclamationis* L., 15.x.; *Phlogophora meticulosa* L., 21.xii.

*Phigalia pendaria* Fab. was taken on 30.xi. and 21.xii.

#### POLYMORPHISM

*Biston betularia* L.

typical 115 (84%)

carbonaria 7 (5%)

insularia 15 (11%)

*Sterrha aversata* L.

remutata 80 (71%)

aversata 32 (29%)

*Alcis repandata* L. Typical 89, *conversaria* 8.

*Apamea crenata* Hufn. Typical 17, *alopecurus* 2.

*Ectropis biundularia* Borkh. (and *crepuscularia* Hübn.) Typical 16, melanic 1.

*Eilema deplana* Esp. Typical 6, *unicolor* 1.

*Eilema griseola* Hübn. Typical 4, *flava* 2.

#### REFERENCE

Siggs, L. W. New Forest Mercury Vapour Light Records for 1966. *Ent. Rec.*, 79: 144.

Sungate, Football Green, Minstead, Lyndhurst, Hants.

## Insects at light: Hilton, Natal

By J. S. TAYLOR

During the summer of 1965/6, and again in the following year, observations on insects attracted by light were carried out at Hilton, Natal, similar to those at Wilderness, C.P., in 1964/5 (*Ent. Rec. & Jl. Var.*, 78: 73-75, 1966). At Hilton, the light was an ordinary 100 watt bulb